

Although the coronavirus has temporarily closed the Kentucky Historical Society (KHS) campus to onsite visitors, KHS has pivoted to offer more online opportunities. From virtual tours to digital resources, KHS continues to meet our mission of educating and engaging the public through Kentucky history. Here are some numbers to update you on our activity since March 1st.

VIRTUAL ENGAGEMENT BY THE NUMBERS

- Virtual Visitor webpage: 2,668 visitors
- Virtual Tours: 13,900 views on Facebook
- Increase in KHS Facebook video views in last month: 35,528% (yes, 35,528!)
- Hours of KHS content watched on Facebook: 255 hours
- Number of people who have watched "Kentucky History Treasures" on TV: 782,000
- Number of times "Kentucky History Treasures" has been seen on Facebook: 6,100
- Number of new users to ExploreKYHistory marker website: 4,688 (in last 2 weeks)
- Number of page views on ExploreKYHistory marker website: 8,510 (in last 2 weeks)

Become a "Virtual Visitor"

Connect with KHS on our website's Virtual Visitor page! It also includes more than 25 museums and local history organizations offering digital experiences.

KHS Virtual Tours

Experience Virtual Tours of our campus on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. via KHS's Facebook page. Perfect for all ages! Ask questions in the comments section and our tour guides will answer them live.

Need research help?

Our library is closed to onsite visitors, but staff are helping with research requests. Need help? Call our reference desk at (502) 782-8080, or email khsrefdesk@ky.gov.

Kentucky History Treasures

"Kentucky History Treasures," TV segments produced by Lexington's ABC-36 WTVQ, focus on iconic artifacts from KHS's collection. A Kentucky History Treasures mini-exhibit will also be available to visitors when our museums we re-open. To watch, see <https://www.wtvq.com/kentucky-history-treasures>

Want to connect to local history?

Download the ExploreKYHistory app to connect to historical markers across Kentucky! It now includes 56 tours and nearly 900 markers! Over the last two weeks, the site had 4,937 users in 5,580 sessions.

After a 4th grade class watched our first virtual field trip, their teacher said, "THEY LOVED IT! Thank you so much for doing this and providing a different and interactive activity for them to do . . . I cannot wait to set it up again next Tuesday and Thursday. The parents really appreciate it as well. Thanks!"

Volunteers transcribe collections

Nineteen volunteers have spent more than 105 hours transcribing letters and diaries from the KHS collection, adding 106 pages of content to our digital collections!

KHS Master Ledger

KHS staff are transcribing the "KHS Master Ledger," which contains information about artifacts acquired between 1881 and 1998. KHS Registrar Beth Carter found a bronze medallion commemorating the opening of the Panama Canal in 1914, which was donated to KHS in 1938. The donor's sister designed the medal.

Making oral histories accessible

KHS has more than 20,000 oral histories, and 11 staff members are indexing collections to put more online. This same process, with previous resources, would have taken nearly 18 months!



NHDKy by the Numbers

- Number of students engaged in history: 479
- Number of teachers: 48
- Number of participating schools: 43
- Number of regional contests held online: 6
- Number of judges: 51 volunteer and 11 staff judges

Help!!!

We need volunteer judges for the state contest
April 24 & 25! Visit
<http://register.nhd.org/>

NHDKy moves to digital platform

National History Day in Kentucky (NHDKy), which engages students in project-based learning, is now digital.

As the state contest approaches, one teacher said, "NHD makes a difference, and you guys, by jumping through all of these hoops and overcoming this stress to juggle a new online format truly is making a difference in the lives of these children."